

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

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NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 CU-04

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FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

SECSTATE WASHDC 3353

UNCLAS BERLIN 0789

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: NEW AMERIKA HAUS OPENS

1. AMERIKA HAUS LIBRARY OPENING TOOK PLACE AT HIGH NOON OF A BRILLIANT SPRING DAY IN THE PRESENCE OF US AND GERMAN PROMINENCE AND LARGE GATHERING OF GUESTS CULLED FROM TOP OF ALL PRIORITY AUDIENCE CATEGORIES. FORTUITOUS PRESENCE OF MRS. ELEANOR DULLES IN ADDITION TO BERLIN GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ, AMBASSADOR, U.S. COMMANDANT, MINISTER, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNSELOR, LENT EXTRA TOUCH OF HISTORICAL, POLITICAL AND HUMAN INTEREST.

2. REMARKS OF AMBASSADOR, GOVERNING MAYOR, AND AH DIRECTOR MILLER AS WELL AS WELCOME MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR KEOGH, ALL EMPHASIZED THE POLITICAL AS WELL AS INTELLECTUAL IMPORTANCE OF THE AH PAST AND PRESENT. ALL POINTED TO THIS AND FUTURE RENOVATIONS AS A SIGN OF THE CONTINUED US PRESENCE IN AND COMMITMENT TO THIS

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ISOLATED CITY. AMBASSADOR WAS ABLE TO RELATE THIS

REASSURANCE OF OUR INTEREST TO RECENT DIRECT ASSURANCES BY BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE TO VISITING MAYOR SCHUETZ AS WELL AS TO THIS WHOLE WEEKEND OF REAFFIRMATION OF US-GERMAN AND US-BERLIN TIES AFFORDED BY THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF THE BERLIN AIRLIFT. GOVERNING MAYOR IN TURN RECALLED THE HISTORICAL ROLE OF THE AH AS PRINCIPAL WINDOW TO AMERICA AND THE WORLD IN THE IMMEDIATE POSTWAR YEARS AND ITS MAJOR ROLE IN HELPING SO MANY BERLINERS TO BREAK THROUGH THE "SPIRITUAL POVERTY" OF THE NAZI LEGACY. HE RECALLED ITS IMPORTANCE AS A CENTER FOR TRUTH FOR EAST BERLINERS BEFORE THE ERECTION OF THE WALL AND, WITH A TONGUE-IN-CHEEK REFERENCE TO SOME PAST STUDENT EXCESSES, EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE A NEW "STORMING" OF THE AH THAT DERIVED FROM A DESIRE FOR KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING.

3. THE PRESENCE OF EIGHTEEN JOURNALISTS BEFORE AND DURING THE CEREMONIES SHOULD ASSURE WIDE COVERAGE. RIAS, SFB AND AFN ALL TAPED RADIO AND/OR TV INTERVIEWS. NEW ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY "PERIODICA" WENT LIKE HOT CAKES INTO VARIOUS POCKETS, INCLUDING THOSE OF MANY YOUNGER SCHOLARS AT FREE UNIVERSITY WHO ARE AMONG OUR MOST CRITICAL AUDIENCE.

4. LIBRARY ITSELF, ITS ARRANGEMENT, DECOR AND HARDWARE, ALL PUT IN SPLENDID ORDER BY AROUND-THE-CLOCK EFFORTS OF USIS GERMANY LIBRARY OFFICER KARIN STEPHEN, GRAPHIC ARTIST RAY KOMAI, AND LOCAL STAFF, DREW MOST FAVORABLE COMMENTS FROM ALL SECTORS OUR VARIED AUDIENCE. SEVERAL PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIANS IMMEDIATELY ASKED FOR CHANCE TO RETURN AT LATER DATE FOR MORE LEISURELY STUDY OF THIS STRIKING FACILITY.

5. ALL IN ALL A GOOD DAY, IN WHICH THIS CULTURAL INSTITUTION REAPPEARED MOST PROMINENTLY AS A SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT OF OUR POLITICAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESENCE IN THIS SINGULAR CITY.ROSINUS

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